COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER OF LANCASTER COUNTY

ACHIEVES ACCREDITATION

Lincoln, Nebraska — **August 14, 2000** — The Community Mental Health Center of Lancaster County has been informed by CARF...The Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission, an international accreditation body, that it has been accredited for a period for three years for its Case Management, Community-Based Rehabilitation, Crisis Intervention, Crisis Stabilization, Outpatient Treatment, Day Treatment and Residential Treatment programs.

This accreditation outcome, which represents the highest level of accreditation, is awarded to organizations that show substantial fulfillment of the standards established by CARF.

The latest action marks the second consecutive three-year accreditation award. The Community Mental Health Center is funded by Lancaster County and Region V Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

According to Donald E. Galvin, Ph.D., President and CEO of CARF, "The Community Mental Health Center of Lancaster County has put itself through a rigid peer review process and has demonstrated that its programs and services are of the highest quality, measurable, and accountable."

The Community Mental Health Center of Lancaster County is a department of Lancaster County with offices at 2200 St. Mary's Avenue. It has been providing mental health services to adults throughout Lancaster County for almost 40 years.

Dean Settle, Executive Director of the Community Mental Health Center of Lancaster County thanked center staff and persons served for their participation in this important agency milestone and stated, "that by maintaining accreditation, the Community Mental Health Center is in compliance with a respected body of standards and the Community Mental Health Center does compare very positively with national best practice trends."

CARF, a private, not-for-profit, Tucson-based accreditation body established in 1966, is committed to promoting the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process that centers on enhancing the lives of the persons served.

For additional information contact Dean Settle or Wendy Andorf at 441-7940, or visit their web site at www.ci.lincoln.ne.us/cnty/mental.